



State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Chumash Painted Cave Erosion Control, Phase 2

LOCATION: Chumash Painted Cave State Historic Park **COUNTY:** Santa Barbara

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

This project is to be performed at Chumash Painted Cave State Historic Park to control erosion occurring at the site in an effort to protect the historic and cultural resources of the Chumash Painted Cave. This restoration project has grown out of a multi-disciplined evaluation of site conditions that included participation by rock art specialists, archaeologists, geomorphologist, and cave experts. The cave was created by wind blowing through the canyon. Wind blowing into the cave is continuing to erode the rock and the art. Volunteer trails have led to the degradation of native plants which once served as wind barriers and would divert water from running into the cave. The problem of wind and water erosion will be lessened by the installation of planter boxes to create areas of wind suppression, decommissioning of volunteer trails, and by use of debris boxes. Meetings will be held to discuss the project with members of the Chumash Native American Society and the Chumash Painted Cave community. An archaeological monitor will be present during any ground disturbing activity to ensure avoidance of potentially significant impacts to buried cultural resources.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Channel Coast District

EXEMPT STATUS:

- ☐ Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
☐ Statutory Exemption (Section)
☒ Categorical Exemption

Class: 4

Section: 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: This is a second phase of an overall stabilization project that is designed to reduce unwanted disturbance and to protect pictographs within the cave.

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Original signed by:

Richard Rojas
District Superintendent
Channel Coast District

DATE